

## AMENDMENT

### In the Claims

The following Listing of Claims, in which deleted text appears ~~struck through~~ or in double brackets, e.g., [[error]], and inserted text appears underlined, will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### Listing of Claims

1 – 17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently amended)      Palladium 3<sup>1</sup>-oxo-15-methoxycarbonylmethyl-rhodobacteriochlorin 13<sup>1</sup>-(2-sulfoethyl) amide, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof dipotassium.

19 (Currently amended).      A pharmaceutical composition comprising the **bacteriochlorophyll** compound according to claim [[1]] 18 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

20 – 35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently amended)      A method for vascular-targeted photodynamic therapy (VTP) of a tumor, which comprises:

(a) administering ~~to an individual in need~~ the **bacteriochlorophyll** compound according to claim [[1]] 18 to an individual having a tumor; and

(b) irradiating the local area of the tumor with light.

37 (Currently amended).      A method for photodynamic therapy of age-related macular degeneration by vascular occlusion, which comprises:

(a) administering ~~to an individual in need~~ the **bacteriochlorophyll** compound according to claim [[1]] 18 to an individual in need thereof; and

(b) irradiating the local area of the macular degeneration with light.

38 - 43. (Canceled)

44. (Currently amended) ~~The method according to claim 43~~ A method for preparation of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of palladium 3<sup>1</sup>-oxo-15-methoxycarbonylmethyl-rhodobacteriochlorin 13<sup>1</sup>-(2-sulfoethyl) amide ~~dipotassium salt~~, which comprises: (i) reacting Pd-bacteriopheophorbide a with taurine of the formula H<sub>2</sub>N-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-SO<sub>3</sub>H in a [[K<sup>+</sup>]] buffer containing a pharmaceutically acceptable cation; and (ii) isolating the compound.

45 - 50. (canceled)

51. (new) The compound of claim 18, wherein the salt comprises one or more cations selected from the group consisting of monovalent and divalent alkaline and alkaline earth metal cations.

52. (new) The compound of claim 51, wherein said cations are selected from K<sup>+</sup>, Na<sup>+</sup>, Li<sup>+</sup>, and Ca<sup>2+</sup>.

53. (new) Palladium 3<sup>1</sup>-oxo-15-methoxycarbonylmethyl-rhodobacteriochlorin 13<sup>1</sup>-(2-sulfoethyl) amide dipotassium salt.

54. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein the tumor is prostate tumor.

55. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein the tumor is melanoma.

56. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein the tumor is a brain tumor.

57. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein the tumor is a colon tumor.

58. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein the tumor is an ovarian tumor.

59. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein the tumor is a breast tumor.

60. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein the tumor is a skin tumor.

61. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein the tumor is a lung tumor.

62. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein the tumor is an esophageal tumor.
63. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein the tumor is a bladder tumor.
64. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein the compound is administered systemically.
65. (new) The method of claim 64, wherein the compound is administered intravenously.
66. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein the irradiation wavelength approximates an absorption maximum of the compound.
67. (new) The method of claim 66, wherein the wavelength is about 670 – 780 nm.
68. (new) A method of treating benign prostatic hypertrophy by vascular-targeted photodynamic therapy, comprising:
- (a) administering the compound according to claim 18 to an individual having benign prostatic hypertrophy; and
  - (b) irradiating the local area of the prostate with light.
69. (new) The method according to claim 44, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable cation is  $K^+$ .
70. (new) The method according to any one of claims 36, 37, or 68, wherein the compound is palladium  $3^1$ -oxo-15-methoxycarbonylmethyl-rhodobacteriochlorin  $13^1$ -(2-sulfoethyl) amide dipotassium salt.